1899MNRAS..59..570I

The Magnitude of η Argûs, 1899. By R. T. A. Innes.

The comparison stars for *η Argûs* given in the *Uranometria Argentina* only go to the 7·60 magnitude, and fainter magnitudes are now required.

For the present it has been found sufficient to add the star C.G.A. Cluster Catalogue, No. 121, there given as mag. = 8·0 red. I have used this magnitude; the colour is about 8 on Chandler's scale. The other comparison star used in the following observations was Gilliss 1332, mag. 7·60; colour, full yellow = 4 on Chandler's scale.

Both of these stars are most conveniently situated with reference to *η Argûs*, which is between them in position, and also at present between them in magnitude and colour.

With the 7-in. Merz equatorial :—

1899 June 10	mag. = 7·6	
11	7·8	colour = 8.
13	7·75.	
18	7·7	colour = 6.
1899·5	mag. 7·71	colour 7.

To compare we have :—

1897·2	7·60	See, A.J. 399, p. 119.
1896·4	7·58	Innes, M.N. lvii. p. 115.
1886·2	7·60	Finlay, „ xlvi. p. 340.

All in U.A. scale.

Royal Observatory, Cape of Good Hope,
1899 *June* 20.

Tempel's Comet (1873 II–*c* 1899), *observed at Grahamstown.*
By Major L. A. Eddie.

1899, August 15.—Comet well seen, though Moon too bright for detecting much physical structure. Head sharply defined on preceding edge, narrow in anterior portion, spreading out immediately at a wide angle, and very much diffused posteriorly. Condensation in central portion of head. Colour pale white, but moonlight too bright to detect any particular tint. This comet did not appear fluffy, like Swift's comet observed at my observatory in March last, but with a sharp outline on advancing edge. Though faint, stood power of 100 well.

August 17.—Moon very bright, and atmosphere hazy, so comet only dimly visible.

Downloaded from http://mnras.oxfordjournals.org/ at Yale University on June 30, 2015

© Royal Astronomical Society • Provided by the NASA Astrophysics Data System

1899MNRAS..59..570I

August 18.—Comet nearly eclipsed by moonlight, though could be traced as well spread out, with central portion fairly condensed. Colour very pale bluish white.

August 24.—Early evening, dark. Comet well seen in finder. In 9¼-inch reflector nucleus globular in form, and well condensed, of pale white colour, about 2′ in diameter, and surrounded by wide but very rare coma. A broad, though extremely faint, tail, could be traced to about 16′.

Spectroscope gave dim continuous spectrum, with brighter concentration in one portion, but no bands detected.

August 25.—Comet well seen on dark background. Cometic envelopes, though faint, well defined, with two dark intervals in preceding portion, fairly conspicuous condensed nucleus, with dark rift behind, and broad, faint tail about 16′ in length. No bands detectable with spectroscope.

August 28.—Comet already much fainter. Detail not well seen, but considerable surrounding coma still visible. Stellar point in condensed portion suspected. Comet subsequently observed on August 29, 31, September 1, 2, 5, 7; but no great changes detectable, only getting gradually fainter, though condensed nucleus and wide spread surrounding coma in hyperbolic form still noticeable; dark rift in faint tail generally seen, coma usually showed a very streaky appearance.

Approximate Positions.

	C. U. T.		R.A.		S. Dec.	
	h	m	h	m	°	′
Aug. 15	11	0	21	12	31	4
17	10	0	21	13½	31	33
18	10	0	21	14½	32	12
24	10	0	21	22½	33	54
25	9	15	21	23¾	34	21
28	8	30	21	27½	34	51
Aug. 29	8	0	21	29	35	0
31	8	0	21	31¾	35	16
Sept. 1	8	0	21	33	35	24
2	9	30	21	34½	35	32
5	8	30	21	38½	35	49
7	8	15	21	40	36	0

Grahamstown :
Sept. 9, 1899.

Observations of Jupiter in 1899. By W. F. Denning.

Between 1899 February and September (but chiefly in the months June to September) I obtained 668 transit times of various markings on *Jupiter*. All the observations were effected by the help of a 10-inch With-Browning reflector and one of Steinheil's monocentric oculars having a power of 312. It is not intended to give the details of the observations,* but simply

---

* This is rendered unnecessary by the fact that Mr. A. S. Williams of West Brighton is investigating the motion of the equatorial current, while the Rev. T. E. R. Phillips, of Yeovil, is discussing all the observations of spots in the extra-equatorial currents.

Downloaded from http://mnras.oxfordjournals.org/ at Yale University on June 30, 2015

© Royal Astronomical Society • Provided by the NASA Astrophysics Data System